

Barbara and Vicki have an edgy history with one another which goes back to Barbara's mistake about Sandy the Sand Beast in 'The Rescue': Barbara shot Vicki's pet, thinking it was going to attack her, and Vicki took against her. Her outburst against Barbara later in the story earned her a spanking from the Doctor, so there have been no more open rows, but on Vicki's side there is a lingering feeling of suspicion and dislike. For her part, Barbara knows that she was in the wrong back on planet Dido, but Vicki's continuing sulky behavior towards her arouses her disciplinarian tendencies. Barbara has always been a firm believer in a good spanking as the best treatment for an unruly teenage girl, and there were several occasions when she put this into practice on Susan. But so far, Barbara's itching palm has not had the chance to smack across Vicki's bottom: all the necessary spanking has been administered by the Doctor. But now, in 'The Web Planet', they are left alone in the TARDIS together...

There is already some friction in the scene as it appears on screen: Vicki is suspicious of the aspirin Barbara gives her, passes an unwise remark that Barbara must have been a kindergarten teacher, won't believe her when she says she got the gold bracelet from Nero... It all arises from Vicki treating what Barbara says with skepticism, and Barbara being a little touchy about that. Well, that's just fine: feed in the Spanking Adventures backstory which makes Vicki less than fond of Barbara and Barbara just waiting for the chance to give the new girl what she deserves, and we can take the exact same scene in a whole new direction!

So the friction escalates each time Vicki says the wrong thing, and Vicki just couldn't care less: why should she have to be polite to the hated Barbara? So when the scene reaches its climax, Barbara doesn't leave Vicki to sleep off her headache... 'At my school,' she says, 'my oh-so-backward, primitive school, we knew just how to deal with naughty little girls like you.'

'Well, I'm glad I never went to your rotten school,' retorts Vicki.

'That doesn't mean it's too late for me to teach you some manners, my girl,' says Barbara, privately regretting that she has never gotten around to equipping the TARDIS with a cane.

'And what makes you such an expert on good manners, then?'

Barbara's answer is to take Vicki by the lobe of her ear and force her up off the orthopedic bed. She marches the impertinent girl across to the chair and sits down. 'Oh no!' wails Vicki as Barbara pulls her down across her lap. 'Please, Barbara, no!' But Barbara is implacable. She flips up Vicki's short skirt and brings her palm down across the black seat of Vicki's pantyhose. The smack echoes thru the TARDIS, but there is nobody there to hear Vicki's yell, nothing to make Barbara accede to her frantic pleas. Gripped efficiently around the waist, Vicki can only wave her legs in distress and wait for the spanking to be over.

Finally Barbara lets her up. Vicki's reaches behind her to rub her sore bottom. '*That* is what makes me an expert on good manners,' snaps Barbara. 'And if you have any sense in you, you'll never forget it. Now back into bed and get some rest.' She turns on her heel and leaves

Vicki's bedroom.

Still rubbing her bottom, Vicki looks round at the bed. Its curves follow the line of the body as it lies. But how, she wonders, will it be possible for her to sleep on that bed facedown?